Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A method for ~~distributing~~ dividing a print task ~~among multiple~~ into a plurality of proportional modified print tasks ~~printers~~, said method comprising the following acts ~~in order~~:

sending a print task to a driver;

converting said print task to a printer-specific print task with said driver;

sending said printer-specific print task to a spooler;

sending said printer-specific print task from said spooler to a non-driver, print processor;

sending print task modification commands to said non-driver print processor;

determining individual printer capabilities for a plurality of printers, wherein said capabilities relate to at least one of a printer speed, a printer availability and a printer media capacity; and

~~modifying~~ dividing said printer-specific print task into a plurality of modified print tasks with said non-driver print processor, wherein the size of each of said modified print tasks is proportional to the capabilities of one of said plurality of printers to which said print task is associated.

2 (original). The method of claim 1 wherein said sending said print task modification commands comprises reading command data from a configuration file.

3 (original). The method of claim 1 further comprising the act of prompting a user for print task modification commands.

4 (previously amended). The method of claim 3 wherein said prompting is print-processor based.

5 (previously amended). The method of claim 3 wherein said prompting is driver-based.

6. (currently amended)   The method of claim 1 wherein ~~said modification comprises dividing said print task into multiple modified print tasks~~ the size of each of said modified print tasks is primarily proportional to the speed of the printer associated with the print task.

7. (currently amended) The method of claim 1 ~~6~~ wherein said dividing comprises job splitting.

8 (currently amended). The method of claim 1 ~~6~~ wherein said dividing comprises copy splitting.

9 (currently amended). The method of claim 1 ~~6~~ wherein said dividing comprises a combination of copy splitting and job splitting.

10 (currently amended). The method of claim 1 ~~wherein said modifying comprises dividing said print task into multiple modified print tasks and~~ further comprising the act of distributing said ~~multiple~~ plurality of modified print tasks to ~~a~~ said plurality of ~~printing devices~~ printers.

11 (original). The method of claim 1 wherein said print task is a printer-ready file.

12 (original). The method of claim 1 wherein said print task is journalled printer data.

13 (currently amended). A post-driver print processor capable of modifying a print task, after driver processing, according to print task modification commands, said print processor comprising:

a spooler interface for receiving a print task from a spooler;

a command interface for receiving a print task modification command;

a ~~modifier~~ divider for ~~modifying~~ dividing said print task according to said print task modification command, after a driver has processed said print task, thereby creating ~~at least one~~ a plurality of modified print tasks wherein the size of each of said modified print tasks is proportional at least one of a printer speed, printer availability and a printer media capacity for a printer associated with said modified print task; and

an output for sending ~~at least one~~ at least one of said plurality of modified print tas~~k~~s to the printer associated with said modified print task ~~to one of a printer or a spooler~~.

14 (currently amended). The print processor of claim 13 wherein said command interface receives print task modification commands independently of said ~~input~~ spooler interface for receiving a print task.

15 (currently amended). The print processor of claim 13 wherein said command interface is a dialog box.

16 (currently amended). The print processor of claim 13 wherein said command interface prompts a user for job splitting parameters.

17 (currently amended). The print processor of claim 13 wherein said command interface prompts a user for copy splitting parameters.

18 (currently amended). The print processor of claim 13 wherein said command interface prompts a user for copy splitting and job splitting parameters.

19 (currently amended). The print processor of claim 13 wherein said <u>command</u> interface prompts a user for multiple printer selection.

20 (currently amended). A computer readable medium comprising instructions for modifying a print task with a post-driver print processor, said instructions comprising the acts of:

receiving a printer-driver-converted print task at a print processor, said printer-driver-converted print task being received from a spooler;

receiving print task modification commands at said print processor; and

~~modifying~~ <u>dividing</u> said printer-driver-converted print task <u>into a plurality of modified print tasks</u> with said print processor<u>, wherein the size of each of said modified print tasks is proportional to at least one of a printer speed, a printer availability and a printer media capacity for a printer associated with each of said modified print tasks</u>.

21. (currently amended) A computer data signal embodied in an electronic transmission, said signal having the function of modifying a print task with a print processor, said signal comprising instructions for:

receiving a printer-driver-converted print task at a print processor, said printer-driver-converted print task being received from a spooler;

receiving print task modification commands at said print processor; and

~~modifying~~ <u>dividing</u> said printer-driver-converted print task <u>into a plurality of modified print tasks</u> with said print processor<u>, wherein the size of each of said modified print tasks is proportional to at least one of a printer speed, a printer availability and a printer media capacity for a printer associated with each of said modified print tasks</u>.

22 (currently amended). A method for modifying a print task with a print processor, said method comprising the acts of:

sending a print task to a driver;

converting said print task with said driver:

prompting a user for print task modification commands;

creating a spool file for said converted print task;

sending said spool file to a spooler;

spooling said spool file to a modifying non-driver print processor; and

modifying said spool file according to said print task modification commands,

after said converting by said driver, thereby creating ~~at least one~~ a plurality of modified

print task~~s~~, wherein the size of each of said modified print task is proportional to at least

one of a printer speed, a printer availability and a printer media capacity for a printer with

which each of said modified print tasks is associated~~;~~.

~~sending said at least one modified print task to at least one printing device~~.

23 (currently amended). A method for distributing a print task to multiple printing devices with a print processor, said method comprising the acts of:

generating a print task from an application, said print task being configured for printing on a single printing device;

invoking a print driver for combining device initialization and environment data for said single printing device and print task data from said application and creating a spool file;

obtaining cluster printing data;

sending said spool file to a spooler;

spooling said spool file to a cluster-enabled print processor (CPP);

modifying said spool file data with said CPP to cause said print task to be distributed to multiple printing devices thereby creating ~~at least one~~ a plurality of modified print task~~s~~, wherein said creating results in modified print tasks which are sized in proportion to at least one of a printer speed, a printer availability and a printer media capacity for a printer associated with each of said modified print tasks; and

sending said ~~at least one~~ plurality of modified print task~~s~~ to said multiple printing devices with which said modified print tasks are associated.